

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. ~~SECRET~~

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Guatemala

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE DISTR. 19 July 1949

SUBJECT Assassination of Colonel Francisco Arana
25X1C

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRED ~~SECRET~~NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF INFO. ~~SECRET~~
25X1X**RETAIN OR DESTROY**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

Colonel Francisco Arana, Chief of the Armed Forces of Guatemala, was assassinated in Amatitlan, Guatemala, at 1 P.M., 18 July by Enrique Blanco, Sub-director of the Guardia Civil, who was also killed. The Governor was sending the bodies of both to Guatemala City the afternoon of 18 July.

2. Although implications of Arana's assassination are not yet clear, it is reported that tension had been growing during the previous week between Arana factions and those of Lt. Col. Jacobo Arbenz, Minister of National Defense. By mid-afternoon of 18 July the National Palace, the Guardia Civil, and the Ministry of Communications were closed.

3. ~~SECRET~~ Arana forces have taken possession of the National Palace.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

Auth: RDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Date: RDA REG. 77/1703

Date: 24 MAY 1978 By: 019

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